

Message Text

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R 170634Z JAN 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMCONSUL NAHA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU

COGARD

GOVGUAM

TREASURY

XMT AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: JANUARY 16 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. CHINA

NYT REPORTS SEVERAL HUNDRED PEOPLE, INCLUDING MOST
DIPLOMATIC CORPS, VISITED PRCLO THURSDAY TO SIGN
CONDOLENCE BOOK IN HONOR OF CHOU EN-LAI, STAND BRIEFLY
IN FRONT OF BLACK-DRAPED PORTRAIT OF PREMIER. WP
REPORTS HAK VISITED PRCLO TO EXPRESS CONDLANCES, CALLED
CHOU "GREAT LEADER AND A FRIEND." NYT FRONTPAGES PHOTO
OF HAK STANDING BEFORE CHOU PORTRAIT. REPORTS IN SEPARATE
PRC VISIT US ALSO REPRESENTED IN WASHINGTON BY SCOWCROFT,
ALSO OTHERS FROM DOS, AGENCIES WITH PRC LINKS.

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NYT DISPATCH RECOUNTS PRCLO FLAG AT HALF-STAFF. INSIDE, EACH VISITOR GREETED BY STAFF MEMBER WEARING WHITE PAPER FLOWER OF MOURNING ON DARK MAO SUIT. COATS WERE REMOVED, HUNG UP; VISITOR GIVEN WHITE FLOWER THEN GENTLY MOVED INTO HUGE ROOM TRANSFORMED INTO CHAPEL. INSIDE DOOR, EACH VISITOR ASKED SIGN ONE OF TWO LOOSE-LEAF CONDOLENCE BOOKS, AND WRITE IN ONE WHOSE PURPOSE DEFINED BY TYPED CARD: "MEMORIAL REMARKS." IN BACKGROUND, SLOW, TAPED DIRGE-LIKE MELODY REPEATED.

AS DAY WORE ON, MORE WREATHS, BASKETS OF FLOWERS ARRIVED TO BE ARRANGED IN SEMICIRCLE, ATMOSPHERE GROWING HEAVY WITH SCENT. FOCAL POINT, AT CENTER OF REAR WALL, WAS BLACK-BORDERED PORTRAIT OF YOUNG-LOOKING CHOU; WAITING TO SHAKE HANDS AT FAR END OF FLOWER BANK WAS HAN HSU, DRESSED IN BLACK SUIT.

ALTHOUGH OFFICIAL MOURNING FOR CHOU ENDED, REUTER (PEKING) REPORTS SMALL GROUPS CHINESE STILL MARCHING INTO CAPITAL'S CENTER WITH WREATHS FRIDAY. FLAGS HUNG AT HALF-MAST FROM HOMES, STORES, WHILE MILLIONS CONTINUED WEARING BLACK ARM-BANDS. NO OFFICIAL WORD ON SPECULATION TENG HSIAO-PING WILL BE PROMOTED TO SUCCEED CHOU; CHINESE SPOKESMAN ALSO SAID HE HAD NO INFO TO BACK FOREIGN REPORTS PARTY CONVENTION IMMINENT TO DECIDE FILLING OTHER VACANT POSTS IN COMMUNIST HIERARCHY.

OFFICIAL MOURNING FOR CHOU ENDED THURSDAY WITH MEMORIAL SERVICE AND ANNOUNCEMENT PREMIER'S ASHES SPREAD IN RIVERS AND COUNTRYSIDE IN ACCORDANCE HIS WISHES (REUTER, WP; UPI CHITRIB, NYDN).

WSJ DISPATCH SAYS WITH CHOU GONE, LEFTISTS MAY GAIN GROUND IN PEKING. NOTES PRESS ARTICLES ALREADY WARN 'REHABILITATED; OFFICIALS AGAINST REVERTING TO "ELITIST" WAVES -- TARGETS APPARENTLY BEING MODERATES, INCLUDING TENG.

GWERTZMAN (NYT) REPORTS US APPEARED ISOLATED IN SUPPORT OF ISRAEL AT UNSC ME DEBATE THURSDAY AS PRC JOINED UK, UNCLASSIFIED

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SOVIET IN BACKING PALESTINIAN CAUSE, THOUGH FROM DIFFERENT VIEWPOINTS.

2. INDOCHINA

MCGOVERN ARRIVES SAIGON FROM HANOI FOR 1-DAY VISIT (REUTER SAIGON).

SVN DEVALUES PIASTER BY 23 PCT, BRINGING EXCHANGE RATE CLOSE TO NVN DONG (AFP, NYT).

OVER 350,000 LEFT SAIGON FOR COUNTRYSIDE SINCE VC VICTORY (REUTER SAIGON).

LAOTIAN GOVT PUTS ARMED FORCES ON ALERT DUE "STRONG RESISTANCE" THROUGHOUT MUCH OF COUNTRY (UPI, PHINQ).

3. TIMOR/INDONESIA

UN ENVOY AT JAKARTA TO STUDY TIMOR SITUATION SAYS WILL MEET WITH LEADERS GOI AND PRO-INDO FORCES IN DILI (AP, PHINQ).

AMERICAN INTL GROUP SUBSIDIARY WILL ACT AS MANAGING AGENT FOR INDO FIRM, IN FIRST INDO FOREIGN INSURANCE JOINT-VENTURE (JOC).

4. HONG KONG

NEW SUBWAY CONSTRUCTION COVERED BY 890 MILLION DOLS WORTH INSURANCE PLACED AROUND WORLD (JOC).

5. KOREA

PRES PARK, IN TELEVISED NEW YEAR ADDRESS THURSDAY, SAID FIRST OIL DISCOVERY IN SK MADE LAST MONTH NEAR POHANG, 170 MILES SE OF SEOUL. FOUR TO FIVE MONTHS NEEDED TO DETERMINE SIZE OF FIELD, ECONOMIC FEASIBILITY (AP, SUN; WSJ). SAID FOREIGN TECHNICIANS, DRILLING EQUIPMENT BEING RUSHED IN FOR FULL-SCALE EXPLORATION (UPI, JOC). IF PROVES OUT, STRIKE WOULD HELP REDUCE UNCLASSIFIED

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TWO BILLION DOL BOP DEFICIT, 1.5 BILLION DOLS OF WHICH SPENT ON OIL IMPORTS (CSM).

WP'S SAAR IN SEOUL NOTES PARK USED TV APPEARANCE FOR WIDE-RANGING REVIEW OF NATL OBJECTIVES. ACCUSED NK OF SCHEMING TO INVADE AT FAVORABLE OPPORTUNITY; SUGGESTED ATTACK MIGHT COME THIS YEAR DURING US PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, BUT CITED NO EVIDENCE. CLAIMED ROK WILL BE SELF-RELIANT IN DEFENSE AGAINST NK ATTACK IN FIVE YEARS. ADDED ARMS RACE UNDESIRABLE, BUT UNAVOIDABLE, UNLESS NK AGREES PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE. PARK ALSO SAID FULL-SCALE OFFSHORE PROSPECTING EXPECTED BEGIN THIS FALL NEAR CHEJU ISLAND. UNDER CONTINENTAL SHELF TREATY ROK SIGNED WITH JAPAN, BUT NOT YET RATIFIED BY DIET, PROSPECTING WOULD BE CONDUCTED JOINTLY, ANY OIL

SHARED EQUALLY (NYT SPECIAL, SEOUL).

6. MALAYSIA

PREDICTIONS ARE NEW PM DATO HUSSEIN ONN WILL CONTINUE
PREDECESSOR, AND BROTHER-IN-LAW, RAZAK'S PRO-WESTERN
FOREIGN POLICY, PRO-MALAY DOMESTIC POLICY (AP, NYT).
IN-FIGHTING BEGINS FOR DEP PMSHIP; HUSSEIN HAD HEART
ATTACK LAST YR, MUCH INTEREST IN WHO WILL BE PICKED
AS DEPUTY, LIKELY SUCCESSOR. NEW PM FACES MAJOR PROBLEMS,

INCLUDING COMING TO TERMS WITH BRUNEI, INVOLVEMENT
IN MOSLEM REBELLION IN S PHILS THAT IS "TACITLY CONFIRMED"
BY FOREIGN OFFICE, BORDER DIFFICULTIES WITH THAILAND.
MAJOR POLICY CHANGES UNLIKELY UNDER HUSSEIN; MOST
ASSUME WILL KEEP MORE RADICAL ELEMENTS IN DOMINANT
UNITED MALAYS NATL ORGANIZATION PARTY UNDER CONTROL
(PILLAI, WP).

TUN ABDUL RAZAK BURIED IN HERO'S GRAVE IN KL (REUTER
KL).

7. PHILIPPINES

CSM'S SOUTHERLAND IN S PHILS NOTES TENTATIVE CALM IN
AREA THAT FEW BELIEVE WILL LAST. SAYS SOME THINK
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MARCOS TOO SOFT ON REBELS. QUOTES MOSLEM LEADER THAT
GOP DEVELOPMENT PLANS FOR MINDANAO "NOTHING BUT SHOW."
TALKS WITH MOSLEM SOLDIERS IN VILLAGE THEY CONTROL;
FINDS SUSPICION OF CHRISTIANS BECAUSE C-F PERMITS
INSURGENTS KEEP WEAPONS.

FINAL DECISION BY AUSSIE FIRM BUILD ALUMINA PLANT IN
MINDANAO POSTPONED; REASON GIVEN: DEPRESSED STATE
INTL ALUMINUM MARKET (JOC).

8. AUSTRALIA/NZ/NARU

PRES FORD SAID FRIDAY WILL NOMINATE JAMES W. HARGROVE,
TEXAS BUSINESSMAN AND FINANCIAL CONSULTANT, AS NEW US
AMB TO AUSTRALIA (AND CONCURRENTLY TO NAURU) (REUTER).

BIG US COTTON-GROWING FIRM AUSCOTT SUFFERS SHARP PROFIT
FALL (JOC). S AUSTRALIA STATE PREMIER APPEALS FOR CALM
FOLLOWING CLAIRVOYANT'S "MENTAL FLASH" THAT EARTHQUAKE,
TIDAL WAVE WILL HIT ADELAIDE MONDAY (AP, SUN).
AUSSIE FIRM BUYS HERD 100 STUD CATTLE OF EXOITC BREEDS
FROM NZ FIRM; HERD TO STAY IN NZ, BUT PROGENY TO

AUSTRALIA (JOC).

CSM'S CARTHEW AT WELLINGTON REPORTS NZ PUTTING EMPHASIS ON RELS WITH US. NOTES PM TOOK CLOSE INTEREST IN US CODEL VISIT, INDICATED WILL LIFT BAN ON NUCLEAR-POWERED WARSHIPS. SAYS FONMIN, DEFMIN EXPECTED ASSURE CODEL LABOR GOAL OF NUKE-FREE ZONE IN S PAC WOULD NOT PROCEED MUCH FURTHER. ADDS MULDOON WANTS DETERMINE US RECEPTIVITY FOR NZ AGRIC PRODUCTS, ESPECIALLY BEEF. STATES CODEL EXPECTED SPLIT, WITH SENS HEADING HOME AFTER THURSDAY'S TALKS, REPS GOING CHRISTCHURCH WHERE US ANTARCTIC OPERATIONS BASED.

9. JAPAN

TOKYO COMMERCIAL CREDIT AGENCY REPORTED TUESDAY BUSINESS FAILURES IN JAPAN HIT ALL-TIME HIGH IN 1975; LIABILITIES OF 12, 605 BANKRUPT FIRMS TOPPED 6.273 BILLION DOLS (UPI, JOC).

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ALL JAPAN SEAMEN'S UNION LEADERS SAID THURSDAY PLAN BEGIN BARGAINING WITH MANAGEMENT IN NEXT FEW WEEKS. SEEK "REASONABLY HIGH" WAGE INCREASES, IMPROVED WORKING CONDITIONS; BUT WOULD NOT SPECIFY EXACT WAGE DEMAND (CULLISON, JOC).

JAPAN SHIPPERS' COUNCIL PLANS REOPEN NEGOTIATIONS LATER IN MONTH ON 15 PCT RATE INCREASES PROPOSED BY FOUR FREIGHT CONFERENCES SERVING TRANS-PACIFIC ROUTES TO US, CANADA; DUE TAKE EFFECT APR 1 (JOC, TOKYO).

GENERAL ATOMIC IS FIRST FOREIGN BODY FIRM TO RECEIVE ANNUAL PRESIDENT'S AWARD FROM JAPAN ATOMIC ENERGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE (JOC, SAN DIEGO).

ISHIKAWAJIMA-HARIMA, OIL MIN KAZIMI SIGNED NINE MILLION DOL AGREEMENT THURSDAY, TO BUILD NINE MILLION DOL GAS LIQUIFICATION PLANT IN KUWAIT (UPI, JOC).

JOC (TOKYO) SAYS ITI KOMOTO VISIT TO TEHERAN LAST WEEK IMPROVED ECON RELATIONS WITH IRAN WHICH HAVE BEEN "POOR" OVER PAST TWO YEARS. AGREED ON FINANCING OF 1.8 BILLION DOL PETROCHEMICAL COMPLEX TO BE BUILT BY MITSUI, NATL PETROLEUM CO OF IRAN AT BANDER SHAPUR; ACCEPTED COMMITMENT PROVIDE KNOW-HOW FOR 2,00 BILLION YEN HIGH-SPEED RAIL LINE LINKING TEHERAN, MESHED; AND AGREED "AIM" AT INCREASING BILATERAL TRADE TO 15 BILLION DOLS BY 1980, COMPARED PRESENT LEVEL OF 6.8 BILLION DOLS.

MUTSUO HAKAMADA, WHO RAN POLITICAL SCHOOL TO BRAINWASH JAPANESE POW'S IN SIBERIA AFTER WWII, RETURNED JAPAN THIS WEEK FOR FIRST TIME IN 30 YEARS, AS CORRESPONDENT FOR SOV RADIO-TV COMMISSION (NYT).

WP'S BARRY FURLONG WARNS JAPAN "ABOUT TO EARN THE WAGES OF LOSING A WAR:LEO DUROCHER IS GOING THERE AS A BASEBALL MAANGER," FOR TAIHEIYO WHALES. SAYS LEO LET'S YOU KNOW VERY QUICKLY HE IS A "VERY SUCCESSFUL MAN."

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COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

10. JAPAN

GLOBE'S CROCKER SNOW STATES GROMYKO "ALMOST GOT HIS FACE PUSHED IN" DURING LATEST SALLY TO JAPAN. JAPANESE LISTENED POLITELY TO HIS ANTI-PRC ARGUMENTS, DIDN'T BLINK. BUT IN MIDDLE OF TALKS, MIYAZAWA TOLD PRESS GROMYKO'S "HARPING" ON SINO-SOV DISPUTE "ANNOYING," AND MIKI COUNTERED GROMYKO THREAT TO ;RECONSIDER" SOV RELATIONS WITH JAPAN BY DECLARING PREVIOUS POLICY OF MAINTAINING "EQUIDISTANCE" BETWEEN PRC, SOV "UNREALISTIC" AND "MYTH."

VIEWS DEVELOPMENT AS "SIGNIFICANT" SIGN OF DEVELOPING JAPANESE SENSE OF SELF. AFTER YEAR OF UNPRODUCTIVE TALKS ABOUT NORTHERN ISLANDS, JAPANESE HAVE MADE MOVE, ABANDONING PATIENCE TO DECLARE PUBLICLY, AND UNCHARACTERISTICALLY, ON SIDE OF CHINESE IN "EITHER-OR" SINO-SOV DILEMMA. THUS, BELIEVES EPISODE SAYS LOT ABOUT DEVELOPING SELF-CONFIDENCE OF NEW JAPAN, AND NEW ROLE IN ASIA.

OBSERVES POINT NOT LOST ON WASHINGTON, WHERE DOS JAPAN-HAND SAID JAPANESE APPROACH DIPLOMACY LIKE GEORGE ALLEN APPROACHES FOOTBALL -- DEFENSIVELY; BUT LATEST MOVE SHOWS THEM "NOT ONLY ADROIT, BUT ALSO SURPRISINGLY FORTHRIGHT AND DIRECT."

COPLY NEWS' EDGAR PRINA (COURIER-NEWS, ELGIN, ILL 1/4) IN TOKYO NOTES IRONY OF SECNAV MIDDENDORF URGING JAPAN DEFENSE LEADERS BUILD UP ARMED FORCES ON 34TH ANNIVERSARY OF PEARL HARBOR. SAYS JAPAN SPENDING ONLY 0.8 PCT OF GNP ON DEFENSE, COMPARED SIX PCT BY US. REVIEWS BUDGETARY, INFLATIONARY PROBLEMS FACING JAPANESE DEFENSE LEADERS, AND VIEWS ON PROCUREMENT OF NEW WEAPONS SYSTEMS.

CSM'S JOHN BEAUFORT IN NY PRAISES "PACIFIC OVERTURES"
AS "STUNNING, UNIQUE STAGE SPECTACLE," NOT TO BE MISSED,
IN WHICH PRODUCER HAROLD PRINCE BOLDLY SEIZED ON MAIN
FEATURES OF TRADITIONAL KABUKU KABUKI FORM, ADAPTED THEM
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TO SOPHISTICATED MUSICAL COMEDY.

11. KOREA

SUN'S SEIDEN IN SEOUL CITES OPPOSITION LEADER WHO CALLED
LAST YEAR "TOTAL DISASTER" FOR ROK BATTERED DEMOCRATIC
MOVEMENT. STATES PARK GOVT CRACKED DOWN TO "UNPRECEDENTED

EXTENT" AFTER FALL US-BACKED REGIMES IN INDOCHINA,
"PERFECTING VIRTUALLY TOTAL SUPPRESSION OF POLITICAL
DISSENT," AND FEW WOULD ARGUE WITH CONCLUSION BY ONE
SKOREAN, THAT "EVOLUTION OF DICTATORSHIP IS NOW COMPLETE
HERE."

SEIDEN ALSO QUOTES OPPOSITION NDP MEMBER OM YOUNG DAL
SAYING, "WE ARE MORE CAUTIOUS NOW ABOUT FIGHTING FOR
DEMOCRACY.....SINCE VIETNAM FELL WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT
KOREAN SECURITY," AND WARNING AGAINST EFFORTS TO RESTORE
DEMOCRACY THAT COULD CREATE DISORDER THAT GIVES ADVANTAGE
TO NKOREANS. NOTES THIS IS POSITION TAKEN BY ROKG, AND
US OFFICIALS AS WELL. CITES ONE HIGH US OFFICIAL
EXPLAINING SK "IS TRADITIONALLY HIERARCHAL CONFUCIAN
SYSTEM, NOT EQUIPPED WITH THE BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR
DEMOCRACY."

COPLEY'S ED NEILAN (SAN DIEGO UNION 12/20) INTERVIEWS
HOUSE SPEAKER CHUNG IL-KWON, WHO ALLEGED NK AGENTS
"INFILTRATING KOREAN RESIDENTS AND ORGANIZATIONS" IN
NYC, EXPRESSED WISH US WOULD STOP IT. SPEAKER ALSO
NOTED SOME SITUATIONS RULE OUT ABSOLUTE FREEDOM BECAUSE
OF THREAT OF WAR, AND ROK THREATENED BY "REAL POSSIBILITY"
OF NK ATTACK, THUS MUST MAINTAIN SECURITY TO KEEP NATION
STRONG. CHUNG ALSO NOTED SOME FOREIGN CHRISTIAN
MISSIONARIES ARRESTED, SOME RELEASED; STATED FOREIGNERS
MUST OBSERVE LAWS. INVITED MANY AMERICANS AS POSSIBLE
TO COME SEE KOREA, SENSE KOREAN EXPERIENCE.

12. NEW ZEALAND

CSM'S CARTHEW AT WELLINGTON OPINES NZ EXPECTED RETURN
CLOSE MIL TIES WITH US, UK; BUT UNLIKELY DISCARD SOME NEW
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DIRECTIONS, NOTABLY STRONGER ECON LINKS WITH PRC, SEA COUNTRIES. QUOTES OBSERVERS THAT MULDOON REALIZES NZ'S ECON FUTURE LIES IN DEVELOPING TRADE WITH ASIA, PAC, S AM. SAYS NATL GOVT LIKELY STRENGTHEN ARMED FORCES MUCH AS ECONOMY PERMITS, ALREADY HAS INDICATED WANTS ITS TROOPS IN SINGAPORE STAY. NOTES MANY OBSERVERS THINK DEFENSE FUNDS COULD BE BETTER SPENT ELSEWHERE; SOME THINK EVEN IF ATTACK BY AGGRESSOR DID COME, US "WOULD NOT RUSH TO WELLINGTON'S AID, DESPITE THE ANZUS PACT."

13. THAILAND

LAT'S MCARTHUR(1/15) BELIEVES ELECTION CAMPAIGN PROMISES LITTLE FOR ANYBODY. NOTES HOST OF LESSER POLITICAL

CHARACTERS DRAMATIZES CENTRIFUGAL FORCES PULLING AT NEW DEMOCRACY, BUT KUKRIT, BROTHER SENI, EXILED EX-MIL STRONGMAN THANOM KITTAKACHORN ARE MAIN FIGURES. KUKRIT'S CENTER-RIGHT COALITION BEGAN COMING APART SO HE ASKED FOR ELECTIONS, INSURING 10 MORE WKS IN OFFICE, AVOIDING NO-CONFIDENCE VOTE. SENI HEADS MILDLY-LEFTIST PARTY, TALKED OF HEADING SOCIALIST COALITION THAT MADE RIGHT WING NERVOUS, SO PRECIPITATED KUKRIT'S RESIGNATION. MCARTHUR SEES ISSUE AS KUKRIT'S INSISTENCE ON NEW RICE PRICE FOR FARMERS; NOTES KUKRIT WILL BE ADMINISTERING 2ND STAGE "TAMBON PROGRAM TO PUMP 300 MILLION DOLS INTO VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS; OPINES OPPOSITION WILL HAVE TROUBLE RAISING MONEY. SEES KITTAKACHORN "LURKING" BEHIND MAIN CONTENDERS.

14. INDOCHINA

STLP-D (12/24) BELIEVES US MIGHT BE RECOVERING FROM NUMBNESS THAT FOLLOWED VN DEFEAT. WELCOMES OVERTURE FROM HANOI IN RETURNING GI REMAINS, THOUGH MIGHT MEAN NVN WITHHELD MIA INFO TO USE AS DIPLOMATIC PAWN. SAYS PAST TIME WHEN US SHOULD LOOK AWAY FROM PAST TO FUTURE. HOPES 1976 WILL BRING FURTHER STEPS TOWARD BUILDING RELS.

SAN DIEGO UNION (12/30) CALLS AID TO HANOI RISKY. OPINES
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NVN'S INCREASING WARMTH TO US MAY MEAN USSR AT LIMIT OF ASSISTANCE CAN FURNISH INDOCHINA. NOTES US TURNED COOL SHOULDER TO OVERTURES, CONGRESS VOTED WITHHOLD

AID DUE HANOI'S C-F VIOLATIONS. BELIEVES PRES, CONGRESS RIGHT. RECOMMENDS FUTURE RELS WITH NVN BE BASED ON WHETHER WILL ADVANCE US INTERESTS, WORLD STABILITY. CONCLUDES SUBSIDIZING REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNISM IN INDOCHINA WOULD DO NEITHER.

HOLBROOKE (NYT 1/11) REVIEWS PORTER'S, "A PEACE DENIED", CONCERNING US, VN AND PARIS AGREEMENT. FINDS BOOK SERIOUS, IMPORTANT, DIFFICULT, FLAWED DUE LACK WILLINGNESS CONSIDER COMPLICATED POLITICAL LANDSCAPE. NOTES PORTER, OF INDOCHINA RESOURCES CENTER, LOOKS "MOSTLY THROUGH NORTH VIETNAMESE EYES," TENDS TAKE NVIETS TOO MUCH AT WORD.

15. CHINA

SUN'S ISAACS, IN HK, INSISTS MAO'S ABSENCE FROM THURSDAY CEREMONY HONORING CHOU IS "FURTHER SIGN OF HIS FAILING

HEALTH," SINCE ASSUMED, IF PHYSICALLY ABLE, CHAIRMAN WOULD HAVE APPEARED TO JOIN MEMORIAL FOR OLDEST, CLOSEST, MOST TALENTED OF ASSOCIATES. INEVITABLY, MAO'S ABSENCE ALSO HEIGHTENED SENSE THAT EXTRAORDINARY CEREMONIES FOR CHOU AND SHARPENED FOCUS HIS DEATH BROUGHT TO TRANSITION OF POWER IN PRC, WERE PRELUDE FOR TIME WHEN MAO HIMSELF PASSES FROM SCENE. SHOW OF GRIEF FOR CHOU AMONG MOURNING CHINESE MASSES WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN EVOKED BY ANY OTHER CHINESE LEADER EXCEPT MAO.

REPORTING HK ANALYSTS BELIEVE CHOICE OF TENG HSIAO-PING TO DELIVER MEMORIAL SPEECH CLEARLY MARKS HIM AS MAN MOST LIKELY SUCCEED CHOU AND PROBABLY MOVE UP CCP HIERARCHY, BUTTERFIELD (NYT) VIEWS TENG'S EULOGY FOR CHOU AS IMPRESSIVE DEMONSTRATION HE IS NOW IN CHARGE.

CDN'S BEECH, IN HK, LAUDS CHOU AS PRC'S "INDISPENSABLE MAN." NOTES CHOU FOUND NO DIFFICULTY IN WELCOMING NIXON TO PRC, BELIEVING "YOU MAKE FRIENDS IN ORDER TO UNCLASSIFIED

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ISOLATE YOUR ENEMY." BEECH MAINTAINS "THERE HAS BEEN NO BETTER DEFINITION" PAKING DIPLOMACY (JAN 10-11).

SUN'S WU, IN HK, SAYS MUCH HAS BEEN SAID ABOUT CHOU'S TACT, TALENTS AS NEGOTIATOR AMONG EQUALS AT INTERNATIONAL SESSIONS; "BUT RELATIVELY LITTLE HAS BEEN RECORDED ABOUT HIS QUIET WAY OF LEAVING A WARM IMPACT ON THE SIMPLE AND ORDINARY PEOPLE EACH TIME HE ARRIVED FOR A MEETING AND AGAIN WHEN HE LEFT."

SHIRLEY MACLAINE, IN INTERVIEW WITH CSM'S UNGER, RECALLS HER PRC VISIT. SAYS CHINESE ATTEMPTING KIND OF "MASS HUMAN HONESTY," WAS FASCINATED BY PEKING'S APPARENT SUCCESS IN RAISING MASSES' LIVING STANDARD, GIVING PEOPLE STRONG COMMON GOAL. BUT EXPRESSES CRITICISM OF CHINESE "OVER-DEMOCRATIZATION" OF ARTS. WOULDN'T WANT CHINESE SYSTEM HERE, ANY MORE THAN WOULD WISH IMPOSE OUR SYSTEM ON THEM.

BOSTON HERALD AMERICAN (1-9) EDITORIALY TAKES NOTE OF CHOU'S DEATH AND STATES THAT HE WILL BE REMEMBERED "AS THE ONE WHO BROKE THE ICE AND SET THE STAGE" FOR MORE NORMAL RELATIONS BETWEEN US, PRC.

PHILADELPHIA SUNDAY BULLETIN (1-11) SAYS CHOU, IN DEATH, "WALKED OUT IN FRONT OF MAO". RECOUNTS DISTINGUISHED AND VARIED CHOU BIO. CHINA NOW FACED WITH THE PASSING OF ITS AGED LEADERSHIP, BUT "SOLIDLY BASED NATIONAL INTERESTS OUTLIVE INDIVIDUALS". CAUTIONS

HOWEVER, THAT WITH NEW GENERATION IN THE OFFING, INTERESTS CAN CHANGE AND NOTHING SHOULD BE TAKEN FOR GRANTED.

PHINQ (1-11) EDIT AFTER LENGTHY BIO, CONCLUDES THAT, "WE HOPE BOTH COUNTRIES CONTINUE TO RECOGNIZE THAT THIS (US-PRC DETENTE) IS IN THEIR MUTUAL INTEREST. KISSINGER

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